

**U.S. Department of Justice**

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*Eastern District of Virginia*

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**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Further Information Contact**  
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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced the sentencing today of Ernest Eugene Thompson, a/k/a "Bin Laden," 19, of Colonial Beach, Virginia, who pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess and possession with intent to distribute in excess of 5 grams of crack cocaine. United States District Judge Robert Payne sentenced Thompson to 121 months incarceration without parole.

Thompson's co-defendant, Gerald Norvel Lucas, a/k/a "Pookie," 24, of Colonial Beach, Virginia, has also entered a guilty plea to the same charge and is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge Payne on June 8, 2004.

Thompson and Lucas, both known drug traffickers in Colonial Beach, were arrested in a traffic stop by officers of the Colonial Beach Police Department. At that time, the officers seized approximately 18.4 grams of crack cocaine from the defendants.

Also announcing the sentencing are Richard Stuart, Westmoreland County Commonwealth's Attorney; Donald W. Thompson, Special Agent-In-Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Richmond Resident Office; Charles Jackson, Westmoreland County Sheriff; and Courtlandt A. Turner, Colonial Beach Chief of Police.

The case was investigated by the Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office, the Colonial Beach Police Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney S. David Schiller is prosecuting the case for the U.S. Attorney's Office.

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